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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER	
BEEGLE, HEATHER L	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3692	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
04/07/2008	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/525,732	PODHAJSKY ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	HEATHER BEEGLE	3692	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *03 February 2006*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-38* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) *19 and 38* is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-18 and 20-37* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *2/28/2005*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Status of Application

1. Claims 1-18, 20-37 are pending in this application.

2. Claims 19 and 38 are cancelled.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-18, 20-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee, et al. [U.S. Pat. Pub. 2002/0092004].

Regarding Claim 1, Lee, et al. discloses, A business application generation system for automatically generating a business software application, comprising:

- a central processing unit;

- a repository containing a set of meta data;

- a generation tool;

- input/output means for treating said meta data and for invoking

said generation tool;

said set of meta data containing structured business process application information comprising information on functions operating on data, and said generation tool

retrieving data from said repository and, on the basis of said retrieved repository data, generating a customized business process application.

(Fig. 1, 10, ¶10)

Lee, et al. does not explicitly disclose,

Business data

However, Lee, et al. discloses a business process application which contains data. It is obvious that the data could be considered business data.

Regarding Claim 2, Lee, et al. further discloses, wherein said generation tool comprises a first tool and a second tool, said first tool being a meta data dependent passer element and said second tool being a meta data independent generating element.

(¶37, 38, 40)

Regarding Claim 3, Lee, et al. further discloses, wherein said set of meta data consists of data base tables containing meta data entities.

(¶64)

Regarding Claim 4, Lee, et al. further discloses, wherein said meta data entities contain information on the identification of an application to be generated, on object types and on object structures.

(¶64)

Regarding Claim 5, Lee, et al. further discloses, wherein said object types contain information on the business process data to be processed by the application to be generated and on functions operating on said business process.

(¶10, 64)

Regarding Claim 6, Lee, et al. does not explicitly disclose, wherein said business process is a billing process.

However, it is well known in the art at the time of the invention that a billing process is a business process.

Regarding Claim 7, Lee, et al. does not explicitly disclose, wherein said business process is a bonus payment process.

However, it is well known in the art at the time of the invention that a bonus payment process is a business process.

Regarding Claim 8, Lee, et al. does not explicitly disclose, wherein said business process is a commission payment process.

However, it is well known in the art at the time of the invention that a commission payment process is a business process.

Regarding Claim 9, Lee, et al. further discloses, wherein said input/output means is a workbench enabling at least one of viewing, creating, adding, deleting, changing, inheriting, and editing of said repository meta data.

(¶29)

Regarding Claim 10, Lee, et al. further discloses, wherein said input/output means is a workbench enabling the invocation of said generation tool by initiating an import of meta data into said passer element.

(¶37, 38, 40)

Regarding Claim 11, Lee, et al. further discloses, wherein said passer element handles, interprets, and processes said set of meta data for input to said generating element, said generating element generating, on the basis of said data input, program code for said business process application.

(¶37, 38, 40)

Regarding Claim 12, Lee, et al. further discloses, wherein said generating element further generates data objects for said business process application.

(¶10, 64)

Regarding Claim 13, Lee, et al. further discloses, wherein said generating element further generates a data base for said business process application.

(¶10, 64)

Regarding Claim 14, Lee, et al. discloses, A method for generating a business software application, comprising:

providing a set of meta data containing information on the business process data to be processed by the application to be generated and on functions operating on said business process data, and importing said set of meta data comprising information on functions into a generation tool comprising a meta data dependent passer element and a meta data independent generating element for generating a customized business software application.

(Fig. 1, 10, ¶10, 37, 38, 40)

Lee, et al. does not explicitly disclose,

Business process data

However, Lee, et al. discloses a business process application which contains data. It is obvious that the data could be considered business process data.

Regarding Claim 15, Lee, et al. further discloses, further comprising the step of customizing said set of meta data via an input/output means before said meta data is imported into said generation tool.

(¶39)

Regarding Claim 16, Lee, et al. further discloses, further comprising the step of handling, interpreting, and processing said set of meta data imported into said generation tool in said meta data dependent passer element.

(¶37, 38, 40)

Regarding Claim 17, Lee, et al. further discloses, further comprising the steps of inputting said set of meta data after processing in said passer element into said generating element, and generating program code for said business process application on the basis of said data input.

(Fig. 1, 10, ¶10, 37-40)

Regarding Claim 18, Lee, et al. discloses, A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium, the computer readable medium comprising instructions for carrying out a method for generating a business software application, the method comprising:

importing a set of meta data comprising information on functions into a generation tool, said generation tool comprising a meta data dependent passer element and a meta data independent generating element, on the basis of said set of meta data, processing meta data in said passer element, inputting said processed meta data in said generating element and generating a customized software application.

(Fig. 1, 10, ¶10, 37-40)

Lee, et al. does not explicitly disclose,

Customized business software application

However, Lee, et al. discloses a business software application as well as a customized software application. It is obvious that the customized software application could be considered a business software application.

Regarding Claim 20, Lee, et al. discloses, A business application generation system for automatically adapting a business software application, comprising:

a central processing unit;

a repository containing a set of meta data;

a generation tool; and

input/output means for treating said meta data and for invoking said generation tool;

said set of meta data containing structured business process application information comprising information on functions operating on business data, and said generation tool retrieving data from said repository and, on the basis of said retrieved repository data, generating a customized version of an existing business process application.

(Fig. 1, 10, ¶10, 37-40)

Lee, et al. does not explicitly disclose,

customized adapted version

However, Lee, et al. discloses a customized version. It is obvious that the customized version is adapted.

Regarding Claim 21, Lee, et al. further discloses, wherein said generation tool comprises a first tool and a second tool, said first tool being a meta data dependent passer element and said second tool being a meta data independent generating element.

(¶37, 38, 40)

Regarding Claim 22, Lee, et al. further discloses, wherein said set of meta data consists of data base tables containing meta data entities.

(¶64)

Regarding Claim 23, Lee, et al. further discloses, wherein said meta data entities contain information on the identification of an application to be generated, on object types and on object structures.

(¶64)

Regarding Claim 24, Lee, et al. further discloses, wherein said object types contain information on the business process data to be processed by the application to be generated and on functions operating on said business process.

(¶10, 64)

Regarding Claim 25, Lee, et al. does not explicitly disclose, wherein said business process is a billing process.

However, it is well known in the art at the time of the invention that a billing process is a business process.

Regarding Claim 26, Lee, et al. does not explicitly disclose, wherein said business process is a bonus payment process.

However, it is well known in the art at the time of the invention that a bonus payment process is a business process.

Regarding Claim 27, Lee, et al. does not explicitly disclose, wherein said business process is a commission payment process.

However, it is well known in the art at the time of the invention that a commission payment process is a business process.

Regarding Claim 28, Lee, et al. further discloses, wherein said input/output means is a workbench enabling at least one of viewing, creating, adding, deleting, changing, inheriting, and editing of said repository meta data.

(¶29)

Regarding Claim 29, Lee, et al. further discloses, wherein said input/output means is a workbench enabling the invocation of said generation tool by initiating an import of meta data into said passer element.

(¶37, 38, 40)

Regarding Claim 30, Lee, et al. further discloses, wherein said passer element handles, interprets, and processes said set of meta data for input to said generating element, said generating element generating, on the basis of said data input, program code for said business process application 30.

(¶37, 38, 40)

Regarding Claim 31, Lee, et al. further discloses, wherein said generating element further generates data objects for said business process application.

(¶10, 64)

Regarding Claim 32, Lee, et al. further discloses, wherein said generating element further generates a data base for said business process application.

(¶10, 64)

Regarding Claim 33, Lee, et al. discloses, A method for generating an adapted business software application, comprising:

providing a set of meta data containing information on the data to be processed by the adapted application to be generated and on functions operating on said data, and importing said set of meta data comprising information on functions into a generation tool comprising a meta data dependent passer element and a meta data independent generating element for generating a customized business software application.

(Fig. 1, 10, ¶10, 37, 40)

Lee, et al. does not explicitly disclose,

business process data

adapted

However, Lee, et al. discloses a business process application which contains data. It is obvious that the data could be considered business process data. Lee, et al. discloses a customized version. It is obvious that the customized version is adapted.

Regarding Claim 34, Lee, et al. further discloses, further comprising the step of customizing said set of meta data via an input/output means before said meta data is imported into said generation tool.

(¶39)

Regarding Claim 35, Lee, et al. further discloses, further comprising the step of handling, interpreting, and processing said set of meta data imported into said generation tool in said meta data dependent passer element.

(¶37, 38, 40)

Regarding Claim 36, Lee, et al. further discloses, further comprising the steps of inputting said set of meta data after processing in said passer element into said generating element, and generating program code for said business process application on the basis of said data input.

(Fig. 1, 10, ¶10, 37-40)

Regarding Claim 37, Lee, et al. discloses, A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium, the computer readable medium comprising instructions for carrying out a method for generating an adapted business software application, the method comprising:

importing a set of meta data into a generation tool, said generation tool comprising a meta data dependent passer element and a meta data independent generating element, and

on the basis of said set of meta data, processing meta data in said passer element, inputting said processed meta data in said generating element and generating a customized business software application

(Fig. 1, 10, ¶10, 37-40)

Lee, et al. does not explicitly disclose,

customized adapted business software application

However, Lee, et al. discloses a customized version. It is obvious that the customized version is adapted.

Examiner has pointed out particular references contained in the prior arts of record in the body of this action for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant, in preparing the response, to consider fully the entire references as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior arts or disclosed by the examiner.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HEATHER BEEGLE whose telephone number is (571)270-3333. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday Thru Thursday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm eastern.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kambiz Abdi can be reached on (571) 272-6702. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

HB
/Harish T Dass/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3692